

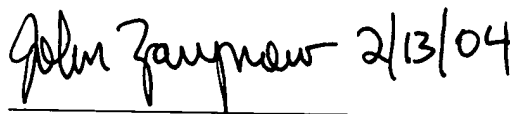
**REMARKS**

Consideration in view of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. This Preliminary Amendment is filed accompanying the above-referenced patent application.

This amendment cancels, without prejudice, a number of originally presented claims in the above-referenced application, filed herewith, for the purpose of diminishing the number of claims to be considered in calculating the filing fees to be paid. Please calculate the filing fee for this application only after canceling the above-indicated claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the remaining claims are now in condition for allowance and a notice of allowance is requested. If there are issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this patent application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,  
JOHN ZARYNOW

 2/13/04

and  
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